

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MILI, GR

SUBJECT: GREECE-NATO DISCUSSIONS: NEXT STEPS

REFS: A) USNATO 5933, 241153Z, JUN 77
-- B) STATE 148764, 251553Z, JUN 77
-- C) USNATO 4234, 271709Z, MAY 77
-- D) USNATO 4820, 061913Z, JUN 77
-- E) ATHENS 4994, 270829Z, MAY 77
-- F) USNATO 2923, 091628Z, MAY 77

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1. ALTHOUGH FURTHER OEG DELIBERATIONS ARE TO BE POSTPONED
UNTIL EARLY SEPTEMBER (REF B), WE BELIEVE IT NECESSARY
AND IMPORTANT TO CONSULT SOON WITH NATO OFFICIALS AND
ALLIES--OTHER THAN GREEKS AND TURKS--REGARDING WHATEVER
THOUGHTS WE MAY HAVE ON PROCEDURAL COMPLICATIONS WHICH
ARE IMPEDING GREECE-NATO DISCUSSIONS. WE WISH TO DO

THIS NOT ONLY TO MAKE SUBSTANTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO RESOLVING DILEMMA AND TO ELICIT THEIR THOUGHTS, BUT ALSO TO DEMONSTRATE TO THEM OUR CONCERN THAT NATO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM ON A STEADY, SYSTEMATIC BASIS. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION SHOULD APPROACH PANSA AND OTHERS IN JULY AND DISCUSS FOLLOWING PROCEDURAL POINTS AS APPROPRIATE:

(A) WE SENSE CONSIDERABLE UNCERTAINTY AMONG ALL

CONCERNED, INCLUDING TURKS, ON NEXT STEPS TO TAKE IN OEG. WHAT WE APPEAR TO NEED IS SPECIFIC DEVICE TO BREAK US OUT OF CURRENT PROCEDURAL LOGJAM. IT STRIKES US THAT A POSSIBLE AVENUE OF APPROACH MIGHT BE TO CHOOSE ONE "TEST-CASE" OPERATIONAL ISSUE TO BE REFERRED TO APPROPRIATE MILITARY/TECHNICAL BODY, FOR EXPERIMENTAL PURPOSES AND WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO OTHER ISSUES. BY MOVING FORWARD WITH DISCUSSIONS ON ONE PROBLEM, OEG COULD DEVELOP PROCEDURES FOR MONITORING THESE DISCUSSIONS AND PROVIDING GUIDANCE. IF OEG TRIES TO DEVELOP PROCEDURES, SPECIFIC GUIDANCE, AND PREFERRED RESULTS FOR ALL AREAS IN ADVANCE AS TURKS SEEM TO BE PROPOSING, IT WILL BECOME HOPELESSLY IMMERSED IN DETAIL. WE HAVE NO PARTICULAR PREFERENCE AT THIS POINT AS TO WHICH ISSUE MIGHT BE SELECTED FOR THIS PROPOSED EFFORT, ASSUMING OEG AGREES TO IT. SOME POSSIBILITIES THAT COME TO MIND ARE THE NATO AIR DEFENSE ELECTRONIC ENVIRONMENT
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SITES (NADEES), FLAGGED BY PANSA AS URGENT (REF F), THE LEVEL OF COMMITMENT OF GREEK AIR DEFENSE FORCES, OR THE QUESTION OF GREEK PARTICIPATION IN UPCOMING NATO EXERCISES. MILITARY/TECHNICAL BODY COULD BE TOLD TO CONDUCT DISCUSSIONS IN EXPLORATORY FASHION, TO KEEP OEG INFORMED ON REGULAR BASIS TO BE DETERMINED, AND TO REFER ISSUES FOR DECISION TO OEG. GENERAL GUIDANCE COULD BE PROVIDED TO EFFECT THAT NATO GOAL IS TO RETURN TO STATUS QUO ANTE. HOPEFULLY, AS TEST-CASE PROCESS SPUN ITSELF OUT, TURKISH FEARS OF BEING OUT-FLANKED WOULD DIMINISH, AND DISCUSSIONS ON OTHER ISSUES COULD COMMENCE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE VIEWS OF PANSA AND APPROPRIATE ALLIES ON EFFICACY OF THIS APPROACH.

(B) WE NOTE THAT KIRCA, FOR MOMENT AT LEAST, MAY HAVE FALLEN OFF HIS DESIRE TO SHIFT OVERALL FOCUS OF NEGOTIATIONS FROM OEG TO DRC AND MC (PARA 7, REFTEL A). WE HOPE THAT TURKISH ATTEMPT TO SHIFT OVERALL FOCUS OF NEGOTIATIONS FROM THE OEG TO THE DRC AND/OR THE MC CAN BE RESISTED. (ASYG MUMFORD INDICATED DURING HIS RECENT WASHINGTON VISIT THAT HE SHARES THIS VIEW.) AS MISSION POINTS OUT (REFTEL D, PARA 2), OEG WAS CREATED

FOR THIS VERY PURPOSE, ITS MEMBERS HAVE BACKGROUNDED
ON THE GREECE-NATO DISCUSSIONS AND IT IS UNIQUELY EQUIPPED
TO PROVIDE OVERALL GUIDANCE FOR HOPED-FOR MILITARY
TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS.

(C) WE ALSO CONCUR THAT WE SHOULD ATTEMPT TO EXTENT
POSSIBLE TO REFER ISSUES TO SHAPE AND ITS MILITARY/
TECHNICAL BODIES WITHOUT OVERLY SPECIFIC TERMS OF
REFERENCE AND GUIDANCE (PARA 4, REF D). THIS HOPE MAY BE
ILLUSORY BUT WE, NATO AUTHORITIES AND OTHER ALLIES SHOULD

CONTINUE TO TRY TO DEVISE COMPROMISE FORMULA BY WHICH
TO ARRIVE AT THIS RESULT. (SEE (A) ABOVE.)

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2. REGARDING MISSION RECOMMENDATION THAT WE INITIATE
ACTION WITH PANSO TO POSTPONE WRITTEN RESPONSE TO GREEKS
FROM DPC (PARA 8, REF A), WE DO NOT WISH TO UNDER-
TAKE ANY SUCH EFFORT AT THIS TIME. OUR IMMEDIATE
PROBLEM IS TO FIND OUR WAY OUT OF PROCEDURAL THICKET
TURKS ARE CONSTRUCTING AROUND MILITARY/TECHNICAL TALKS.
WE WOULD PREFER TO HOLD QUESTION OF DPC RESPONSE IN
RESERVE UNTIL WE SEE OVERALL TACTICAL SITUATION MORE
CLEARLY.

3. FOR ATHENS: IN VIEW OF FACT THAT GOG HAS NOT YET
RESPONDED ON QUESTION OF TWO NIKE SQUADRONS NOT
MENTIONED IN DAVOS' LETTER (REFTEL E), WE SUGGEST
THAT AMBASSADOR RAISE MATTER INFORMALLY WITH AVEROF,
AS APPROPRIATE. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT WE BELIEVE THIS
ISSUE SHOULD BE RESOLVED PRIOR TO CONCLUSION OF THE DCA
NEGOTIATIONS.

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